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| 10/653,754 | 09/03/2003 | Stephan G. Meier | 6363-00600 | 3663 |

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| EXAMINER |
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DILLON, SAMUEL A

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2185

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| NOTIFICATION DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
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05/12/2010

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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patent_docketing@intprop.com
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Continuation of 5.

1. The instant amendment amends Claims 1, 13 and 23 to replace “*the plurality of bits*” with “*a second plurality of bits*”. These amendments resolve the issue that raised the previous 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph rejections, and as such the rejections have been withdrawn.

Continuation of 7.

2. As Claims 1, 13 and 23 were amended per the interpretation given to them by the Examiner in the previous office action, the claims would be rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 103(a) in an analogous way as in the previous action.

Continuation of 11.

3. **The Applicant contends (pgs 10-11, in support of two different arguments) that the combination of Tran’s bits cannot form a multibit value that is associated with a different cache line from other values, since the bits themselves all correspond to different cache lines.** The Examiner respectfully disagrees. As each bit corresponds to a different cache line, each value comprises multiple bits and then corresponds to multiple cache lines. However, each value does still correspond to a different cache line from other values, in that it corresponds to a different set of cache lines than other values. There is no claimed requirement that each value *only* correspond to a single cache line. As such, Tran does disclose the contested limitation.

4. **The Applicant contends (pg 11) that Tran does not disclose an early miss signal indicating that the first address is a miss in the cache prior to a tag comparison between the first address and the plurality of tags.** The Examiner respectfully disagrees, and notes that the Applicant has not directly responded to the interpretation provided in the previous

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action. In the case that an address is a cache miss and is then accessed again, it would be the case that Tang discloses indicating a miss prior to performing a tag comparison. As such, Tran does disclose the contested limitation.

5. Regarding all other Claims not specifically traversed above and whose rejections were upheld, the Applicant contends that the listed claims are allowable by virtue of their dependence on other allowable claims. The Applicant is directed to the Examiner's remarks above.

Additionally, any other arguments the Applicant made that were not specifically addressed in this Office Action appeared to directly rely on an argument presented elsewhere in the Applicant's response that was traversed or found persuasive above.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SAMUEL DILLON whose telephone number is (571)272-8010. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sanjiv Shah can be reached on 571-272-4098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sanjiv Shah/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2185

SAMUEL DILLON
Examiner
Art Unit 2185